

AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/16/21

Title: Signal Troop, New Zealand
Engineers and Signal Troop, New
Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade

July 1917



AWM4-35/16/21

H 3 M R Bde

WAR DIARY

Signal Troop

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Attachments
KAZAR	July 13		Training carried out. No operations	
		1100	Bde detached for duty on reconnaissance with Inf Mt Div. Moved out 1100	
		4 0630	Bde in reserve in position on SABBA-FARA road 1 m W. TAWEL EL HABARI one regt standing to at TAWEL EL HABARI. Come by visual & AMR in advance, by cable & visual to IMP hrs at cross roads. 0720 Bde shelled & moved back to cross roads. 1700 Orders received to withdraw arrived bivouac 2230	
		5	no operations	
FARA		6 0900	Imp Mt Div relieved Austn Mt Div in front line. NZMR occupied bivouac area of 4th A.L.H. Bde and took over reconnaissance duties from 5th Mt Bde Day patrols 1 troop each sent out to (1) GOZMABROK, (2) KH. KHASAF, (3) GOZ EL BASAL (4) BP 510 ABU SHA WISH. Come by visual with TEL EL FARA. Night patrols (6) sent out at dusk (1) 2000 yds E of GAMLI (2) 2000 yds W of UM ORGAD (3) 2 m. E. of SHELLAL (4) 2 m. NE. of SHELLAL (5) 2 m. E. of HISEIA (6) 2 m. NE. of HISEIA All patrols connected to Bde by phone & by lamp. at 2100 (No 7) patrol ordered to be posted 1 1/2 m NE of Pt 210, connected by phone. Day + night patrols as for 6th. 2nd LH Bde, NZMR Bde & 3rd LH Regt moved out to cover reconnaissance by G. in C. NZMR area from Pt 810 through 820; HABARI 0720 ABU YATHIA Visual cone established with 2nd LH Bde at Pt 550 W, and 3rd LH Regt at RASHID BEN advanced regts + survey parties working in district.	KAZAR 110000 BENSHEBA 110000 FARA 110000
		7 0600		

Phabruella

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
FARA	9th cont	1900	Also withdrawal commenced. Arrived bivouac 2120. Night patrols as for 8th. Patrols cancelled
	9.		Day & night patrols as usual
	10th	0100	Moved out to surround reported enemy post at KAASIF. C.M.R. posted from N. & E, W.M.R. from E. 1 sqdn A.M.R. from S. B.H.Q. at KARM. No enemy seen. Bde withdrew at 0600 leaving W.M.R. to cover railway survey party.
	11th		2 sqdns C.M.R. with survey party. Other day & night patrols as usual
	12th		2 sqdns A.M.R. do
		1400	Bde went out north batty RHA to shell Pt 630 and W-IMLIEH. B.H.Q. at FOZ EL GELI-13. Batty 1 m S. Pt 550 (D) advanced patrols at KH-IMLIEH Pt 630. Enemy ceased. Bde arrived camp 1930. Visual cone maintained with batty & patrols
	13		Day & night patrols as usual
	14	0800	Took over GHABI defences from 1st LH Bde. 1 night in works. 2 standing patrols each night 1st. 2 m. S. of GAMLI to 2 2 m. S. of GITRASH. Works & patrols connected by phone
	15		No operations
	16		2 sqdns W.M.R. reconnoitred district between ESANI & KHVALASA. Line through Xmit str at Pt 620 Esani

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
KARAKA	July 17	0530	One sqdn C.M.R. patrolled two KARAKA posts, with 1 sqdn in support of ESANIL same as for 16th	
		18	C.M.R. regt carried out same operations as on 17th. One from Pt 712 @ FARIA	
		19 0950	Tanks advanced & shelled railhead GOZ EL Q. EL EIB. Bde stood to & moved out to GOZ EL BASAL at 1000. Bde in reserve. Returned to camp 2220. Casualties by bombs 1 killed 2 wounded 5 horses killed 6 wounded	
		20 0130	Bde moved out & took over outpost line GOZ EL IMIRI - KH. EL FAR from 2nd L.H. Bde. Same by lamp to posts & phone to D.H.Q.	
		0400	Occupied GOZ EL BASAL. 0545. B.H.Q. @ 550. IM SIRI C.M.R. @ 720. 1000 line 5.10. 550 (A) 650. All clear. Same by helio with all posts, by cable 5.20	
			Withdrawn at 1100. Day patrols taken over by 2nd L.H. Bde	
		21	GHABI works handed over to 2nd L.H. Bde. AMAR returned to bivouac	
		22	AMAR regt reconnaissance in direction WADI IMBIEH. Some difficulty on account of heavy dust clouds	
		23 0445	Division ^{moved} ordered to the corridor in direction of OIR ENBA in case of the possible counter-attack. AMAR look up line Pt 720 - 810. 1st L.H. Bde @ 800 - TAWIL HADARI - BAWYAN. D.H.Q. at KARAKA. Helio comm with all posts and D.H.Q. Withdrawal commenced 1155. Arrived camp 1420.	
		24 0530	W.M.R. regt reconnaissance of W-IMBIEH to Pt 710. Downed. Barty went out but did nothing.	

WAR DIARY

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OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KMPA	July 25	1530	Reconnaissance by AMR with battery as for 24th. Patrols pushed up w. SHERIFF apt 420 + WIMLIE apt 410. Regimental signallers did valuable work directing fire of battery from these points.	
	26	1530	Reconnaissance by AMR as for 25th.	
	27		Reconnaissance by WMR legs 1200m along ABU SHT 1511 rd @ apt 400 as for 25th.	
	28		Took over daily patrols & night standing patrols of centre area from 1st LH Bde. Posts same as detailed on 24th July. Phones to night posts as before.	
	29		2 regd AMR reconnoitred W. M. B. 1200 R Bde - 2nd LH Bde acted as covering force for reconnaissance by C. M. R.	
	30		12 hrs apt 510 AMR line 510 - 410, WIMLIE apt 550 - 650 - 720 (incl. 720) on our right. Lines with GHP by cable & helio, with posts, 12 LH Bde by helio. Withdrawn at 1200 leaving out day patrols.	
	31		As for 28th carried out by C. M. R.	
	1/31		Ordinary day patrols only.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 709

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>It is quite evident that the establishment of regimental signallers in 5 for 4 or 3 per sqdn. is quite inadequate. In accordance with orders issued recently every patrol day or night must have signallers with it. During the present period the signallers have been overworked and at times have found it very difficult to carry on. A squadron goes out on patrol & puts out its 4 troops. Each troop must have a signaller as well as hrs. so that signallers have to be borrowed from other squadrons. The result is that the men are working continuously day & night. Application has been made several times to have the establishment increased.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>W. H. [Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i> </p>	

H 3 M R Bde

WAR DIARY

Signal Troop

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KAZAR	July 3	no operations	<p>Training carried out. No operations</p> <p>Bde detached for duty on reconnaissance with Inf Md Div. Moved out 2400</p> <p>Bde in reserve in position on GABA-FARA road 1 m W. TAWEL EL HABARI one regt standing to at TAWEL EL HABARI. Come by visual to AMR in advance, by cable visual to IMP Regts at crossroads. 0720 Bde shelled + moved back to crossroads</p> <p>1700 Orders received to withdraw arrived bivouac 2230</p>	
FARA.	6	0900	<p>no operations</p> <p>Imp Md Div relieved Austn Mtg Div in front line. NZMR occupied bivouac area of 4th ALH. Bde and took over reconnaissance duties from 5th Mtg Bde</p> <p>Day patrols 1 troop each sent out to (1) GOZMABROK, (2) KH. KHASIF, (3) GOZ EL BASAL, (4) PT 510 ABU SHA WISH. Come by visual with TEL EL FARA.</p> <p>Night patrols (6) sent out at dusk (1) 2000 yds E of GAMLI (2) 2000 yds E of UM ORGAD (3) 2 m. E. of SHELLAL (4) 2 m. NE. of SHELLAL (5) 2 m. E. of HISEIA (6) 2 m. NE. of HISEIA</p> <p>All patrols connected to Bde by phone or by lamp</p> <p>1st posted, 1 1/2 m NE of Pt 210, connected by phone.</p> <p>Day + night patrols as for 6th.</p>	<p>RAFA 1124000</p> <p>BEERSHEGA 1124000</p> <p>GABA-SHELLAL 140000</p>
	7/8	0600	<p>2nd LH Bde, NZMR Bde + 3rd LH Regt moved out to cover reconnaissance by C. in C. NZMR area from Pt 810 through 820; HABARI 0720 ABU YATHIA</p> <p>Visual cone established with 2nd LH Bde at Pt 550 (W) and 3rd LH Regt at RASHID BEX</p> <p>Advanced regts + survey parties working in district.</p>	<p>Phabruel</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FARA	8th until 9th		No withdrawal commenced. Arrived bivouac 2130 Night patrols as for 6th except 2000 cancelled	
	9.		Day & night patrols as usual	
	10th	0100	Moved out to surround reported enemy post at KAASIF. CMR departed from N. & NE, WMR from E. 1 sqdn AMR from S. BHQ at KARIM. No enemy seen bde withdrew at 0600 leaving WMR to cover railway survey party	
	11th		2 sqdns CMR with survey party. Other day & night patrols as usual	
	12th		2 sqdns AMR do	
	13	1400	Bde went out with batty RHA to shell Pt 630 and W IMLIEH. BHQ at FOZ EL G ELEIB Batty 1 m S. Pt 550 advanced patrols at KH IMLIEH Pt 650. Firing ceased Bde arrived camp 1930 Visual com maintained with batty & patrols	
	13		Day & night patrols as usual	
	14	0200	Took over GHABI defences from 1st LH Bde 1 night in works, 2 standing patrols each night 1st 2 m. S. of GAMLI to 2 2 m. S. of GITHAB Works & patrols connected by phone	
	15		No operations	
	16		2 sqdns WMR reconnoitred district between ESANI & KHVALASA line through Xmit str at Pt 620 Esani	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FARA	July 17	0530	One sqdn C.M.R. patrolled roads KHALASA - to ESANIL same as for 16th	
			W.M.R. regt carried out same operations as on 17th. One from Pt 712 @ FARA	
		0950	Trucks advanced & shelled railhead GOZ EL GELEIB. Bde stood to & moved out to GOZ EL BASAL at 1000. Bde in reserve. Returned to camp 2230. Casualties by bombs: 1 killed 2 wounded 5 horses killed 6 wounded	
		0130	Bde moved out & took over outpost line at EL IMARI - KH - LFAR from 2nd L.H. Bde. Same by lamp to posts & phone to D.H.Q.	
		0400	Occupied GOZ EL BASAL. 0545 B.H.Q. @ 550 IM SIRI C.M.R. to 720 corner line 510 550(A) 630 All clear. Same by helio with all posts by cable to D.H.Q. Withdrew at 1100. Day patrols taken over by 2nd L.H. Bde	
			GHABI works handed over to 2nd L.H. Bde. AMR returned to bivouac	
			AMR regt reconnaissance in direction WAJI IMLEIH. Some difficulty on g/c. Heavy dust clouds	
		0445	Division moved to the commo line in direction of BIR SABA in case of its possible withdrawal. W.M.R. look up line Pt 730 - 810. 1st L.H. Bde 820 - TAWI HABARI - ASU YAHIA. D.H.Q. at KHALSAF. Helio comm with all posts and D.H.Q. Withdrewal commenced 1155 arrived camp 1120.	
		0530	W.M.R. regt reconnaissance of W-IMLEIH to Pt 710. Bomber Batty went out but did nothing.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FARA	July 25	0530	Reconnaissance by A.M.R. with battery as for 24th. Patrols pushed up w. SHERIDAN apt 420 + WILMIE apt 410. Regimental signallers did valuable work directing fire of battery from these points.	
	26	0530	Reconnaissance by A.M.R. as for 25th. Reconnaissance by W.M.R. legs 1sgdn along A.B. S. 17th 15th rd apt 410 as for 25th.	
	27		Took over daily patrols & night standing patrols of centre area from 1st L.H. Bde. Posts same as detailed on 24th July. Phones to night posts as before.	
	28		2sgdn A.M.R. reconnoitred W. M. Bch.	
	29		N.M.R. Bde + 2 L.H. Bde. acted as covering force for reconnaissance by C.M.R. N2 hrs apt 510. A.M.R. 2sg - 410. WILMIE apt. W.M.R. hrs 550 - 650 - 720 (incl. 720) on our night. Line with 24th by cable + helio, with posts 12th by helio. Withdrawn at 1700 leaving out day patrols.	
	30		As for 28th carried out by C.M.R.	
	31		Ordinary day patrols only.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 709

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>It is quite evident that the establishment of regimental signallers, viz. 5 per sqdn of 3 per sqdn - is quite inadequate. In accordance with orders issued recently <u>every</u> patrol day or night must have signallers with it. During the present period the signallers have been overworked and at times have found it very difficult to carry on. A squadron goes out on patrol & puts out its 4 troops. Each troop must have a signaller as well as hrs. so that signallers have to be borrowed from other squadrons. The result is that these men are working continuously day & night. Application has been made several times to have the establishment increased.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">H. H. H. Adjutant 12th Div Bde</p>	